GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:38
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004
VIOLATION OF INTERCONNECT AGREEMENT BY RELIANCE INFOCOM
Chakraborty Shri Ajay;Kumar Shri Shailendra

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the BSNL has incurred a huge loss following violation of NLD service Interconnect Agreement by unauthorized routing on the part of Reliance Infocom Ltd;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed by the Government for oversighting the violation of aforesaid agreement by the BSNL authorities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the erring authorities ?.

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b)It was detected by BSNL that international telecommunication traffic was handed over at locations meant for traffic within the country by M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. (RIL). As per available information, BSNL has issued 512 notices to M/s RIL for making payment of Rs 257 Crores as per provisions of the Interconnect agreement with M/s RIL. M/s RIL filed an appeal in Delhi High Court, which has issued an interim order for maintaining status quo for disconnection of Point of Interconnection (POI) and making a further payment of Rs. 40 crores to BSNL. M/s RIL has made this payment of Rs. 40 crores making a total of approximately Rs.100 Crores. BSNL has filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court against the interim order of Delhi High Court for maintaining status quo for disconnection of POIs. Matter is sub-judice.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.